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A N

ABSTRACT

O F T H E

PROCEEDINGS

O F T H E

C O R P O R A T I O N,

FOR THE RELIEF OF THE

WIDOWS AND CHILDREN

O F

C L E R G Y M E N,

IN THE COMMUNION OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

IN AMERICA.



PHILADELPHIA, PRINTED:

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IN FRONT-STREET. M,DCC,LXXIII.



A N

A B S T R A C T

O F T H E

P R O C E E D I N G S, &c.

TH E distressed circumstances, in which the episcopal clergy in the more northern provinces of British America (and especially the missionaries in the service of the society for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts) have too frequently been obliged to leave their families, had long been matter of discouragement to many from entering into the ministry of our church, as well as of regret to many of her pious and worthy members.

At length, at a meeting of the clergy at *Elizabeth Town*, in *New-Jersey*, in October, 1767, a committee was appointed to frame some plan of provision for the widows and chil-

dren of such of our clergy as should die in necessitous circumstances; and, in pursuance of this appointment, the Revd. Dr. SMITH, Provost of the college of *Philadelphia*, the Revd. Dr. AUCHMUTY, Rector of Trinity church, the Revd. Dr. COOPER, President of King's college, both of *New-York*, and the Revd. Mr. COOK, Missionary in *Monmouth* county, *New-Jersey*, met at *Perth-Amboy*, May 12, 1768, and framed a *Plan*; which, with some alterations, obtained the approbation of sundry succeeding meetings of the clergy. A draught of a Charter was also agreed upon, and Charters soon afterwards passed in each of the three provinces of *New-York*, *New Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, by which the Clergy, and a number of the most respectable Laity named with them, are created a body corporate, in which ever of these provinces they may meet, or have occasion to transact business.

First MEETING, *October*, 1769, held in the Cities of BURLINGTON and PHILADELPHIA.

THE first meeting of the corporation, agreeable to charter, was convened at the city of Burlington in New-Jersey, October 4th, being the first Wednesday after the Feast of *St. Michael*, 1769; where most of the *Clerical*, and sundry of the *Lay*, members appeared. After
having

having read and compared the several charters, and resolved on addressees of thanks to the different governors for having so readily passed them, a very kind and encouraging letter was read, from the venerable society for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts; in answer to an humble application that had been made to them, for their countenance and assistance in carrying this design into execution. In this letter, the society, “ as a mark of their earnest desire to
 “ forward so benevolent an undertaking, charge
 “ themselves with an annual contribution of
 “ twenty pounds, sterling, to the scheme, for
 “ each of the provinces of *New-York, New-*
 “ *Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*; that is SIXTY
 “ POUNDS, STERLING, per annum, in the
 “ whole; for which they empower the Treasu-
 “ rer of this corporation for the relief of the
 “ *Widows, &c.* to draw *annually* on the Trea-
 “ surer to the society for the propagation of the
 “ gospel, and to commence from the time of
 “ obtaining the * charters.”

AT

* The charter granted in Pennsylvania, is dated February 7, 1769; that in New-Jersey March 29, and that in New-York September 29, both of the same year; and by a rule of the corporation the annual meetings are to be held by rotation, once in three years, in each of the three provinces.

At this meeting it was agreed, " That there should be a suitable *Sermon* preached annually before the *Corporation*; and that each Clerical Member should be prepared to preach in his turn, according to the order in which he is named in the charters." Sundry other *Rules* were proposed, but finding that a majority of the members could not conveniently be convened at Burlington, to enact them into *Fundamental Laws*, agreeable to the tenor of the charters, it was found necessary to adjourn to *Philadelphia*, without breaking up; and on Tuesday, October 10th, a majority being assembled, they proceeded to *Christ-church*, in that city, where a *Sermon*, fully explaining the design of the charity, was preached by the Revd. Dr. SMITH, and a handsome † collection was afterwards made at the church doors.

At this meeting, the corporation applied themselves, in the first place, to the consideration of the proposed laws; and the great attention

† There was no previous notice given this year that a collection was to be made, and therefore what was received was only the charity of some well-disposed persons, given at the doors, as they went out of church. Yearly collections have since been made in the churches amounting to very generous sums, as may appear by the lists.

on paid to this necessary part of the business--- the accuracy and care with which all the several articles were examined, digested, and corrected, especially by the Gentlemen of the Law, deserve to be held continually in grateful remembrance by the Clergy. The Rules made on this occasion, are as follow, viz.

FUNDAMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS of the "*Corporation for the Relief of the Widows and Children of Clergymen, in the Communion of the Church of England, in America.*"

LAWS relative to ANNUITIES, &c.

I. **T**HE yearly contributions of the clergy, whose widows and children shall be hereby intitled to annuities, shall not be less than eight Spanish milled dollars, of the present current weight, namely, seventeen penny-weight and six grains, nor more than twenty-four such dollars, or the value thereof in current money of the province where each contributor lives.

II. No annuities shall be paid but to the widows and children of such clergymen as shall have been contributors to the fund; and the
respective

respective annuities to be paid to the widows and children of such clergymen, shall be five times the sum of their annual contribution.

III. I N order to have a certainty, both as to the quantum, as well as the payment of the annual rates, each contributor shall abide by that rate or class which he first chooses; unless he shall change into another class, on such terms as to the corporation shall appear to be reasonable: And each contributor shall pay his annual contribution to the corporation, on or before the first Wednesday after the Feast of St. Michael, in every year, under the penalty of one penny in the pound, for every day's default: And if the said penalty of one penny in the pound, together with the whole contributions due, shall not have been paid up during the life of the contributor, then his widow and children shall receive only an annuity proportionable to the payments made by the husband or father.

IV. E V E R Y yearly contributor, who shall marry oftner than once, shall pay one year's contribution extraordinary on every such marriage, as he makes the chance in general worse against the fund.

V. I F the husband or father of any person or persons, intituled to an annuity on this plan,
shall

shall not have paid five annual contributions into the fund ; then the widow and children shall only be intitled to ten per cent, per annum, for thirteen years, on the amount of the contributions paid by the deceased.

VI. IF any contributor shall have paid for five years, or any number of years under fifteen, and exceeding five, the annuitants shall receive only half the annuity which belongs to the rate or class subscribed to by the deceased, until such time as the yearly deduction of half the annuity, added to five or more payments, made by the deceased (without computing interest) shall together make a sum in the fund, equal to the sum of fifteen annual payments in the rate or class to which such deceased contributor belonged ; which partial annuities, payable agreeable to this article, shall be proportioned between the widow and children as hereafter fixed, in respect to full annuities, viz.

VII. IF there be no children, the widow of every contributor, if fewer than fifteen payments shall have been made by the deceased, shall receive the whole annual sum due by the last preceeding article ; and if fifteen such payments shall have been made complete by the deceased, then the widow shall receive the whole annuity due on the husband's contribution dur-

ing her widowhood ; and if she marry again, she shall, from the time of such second marriage, receive only half such annuity during her natural life.

VIII. I F there be a child, and no widow, such child shall be intituled to the whole or partial annuity for thirteen years, agreeable to the foregoing articles ; but if there be more than one child, and no widow, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided among them, to be laid out, in case they are minors, in their education or apprenticeship, with the advice and approbation of such executors or guardians as the father may have nominated ; and if none such shall have been nominated by the father, then in such manner for the benefit of the child or children, as the corporation shall direct.

IX. I F there be a widow and one child, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided between them, under the limitations aforesaid : and if there be a widow, and two or more children, she shall have one third during her widowhood, or one sixth during her natural life, if she should marry a second time ; and the remainder for thirteen years, shall be laid out for the use of the children as aforesaid.

X. THE corporation may, if they think proper, with the consent of the annuitants, or of their guardians, if they be minors, pay the child or children of contributors such a sum in hand, as shall be equal to the annuity of such child or children, according to the number of years for which such annuity should be paid, deducting legal interest, and taking into the account the chances against the life of such child or children, for the term such annuity is to be paid.

XI. THE corporation shall have power to increase the rates of annuities, as the state of the fund shall admit; and for that end, all benefactions that shall be made to this fund shall, for the term of ten years to come from this day, be put out to interest, on good land security, and the said interest annually collected, and again put out to interest, shall be appropriated as an augmentation of the capital stock, for the said term of ten years; and, after the expiration of the said term, the interest of all benefactions shall be equally divided among all the children of contributors, for the term that their annuities respectively shall continue payable, according to the foregoing articles.

L A W S relative to M E E T I N G S and B U S I N E S S.

I. **A**T every annual meeting, agreeable to the charter, there shall be one president, one or more treasurers, and one secretary chosen for the ensuing year; and if any of the said officers should be absent from any meeting, the members met shall choose another to officiate in his stead, during that meeting. At any annual meeting, the members met as aforesaid, shall have power to elect such new members as they shall think fit, and likely to promote the good purposes of the charity; and all elections whatsoever, shall be by ballot, and the majority of votes shall be sufficient for the election of the president, treasurer or treasurers, and secretary; but no new member shall be admitted, unless four-fifths of the whole votes be in his favor.

II. T H E R E shall at each annual meeting be chosen a standing committee of six members, consisting of two out of each of the three provinces, who, together with the president, treasurer or treasurers, and secretary, shall direct and carry on the necessary correspondence of the corporation, and from time to time assist the treasurer or treasurers, in managing the
rents

rents and estate of the corporation, and in putting out at interest the monies coming into the stock, either by the annual contributions of the clergy, or the occasional donations of benevolent persons, for which good land security shall be taken, at least to double the value of the monies lent, payable in Spanish milled dollars of the present current weight, namely, seventeen penny-weight and six grains each, or the value thereof in current money of the province where the loan is made.

III. THE annual meetings of the corporation, appointed by the charter, shall be alternately held in the provinces of New-York, New-Jersey and Pennsylvania; and six weeks previous notice of the time and places of all annual meetings, shall be given by the secretary, in one or more of the public news-papers, published in New-York, and in Philadelphia. And if an occasional meeting of the corporation should be found at any time necessary, and the standing committee of business, to be appointed agreeable to the rules of the society, should apply in writing to the president of the corporation, to call such meeting at any particular place within the said three provinces, the president shall call such occasional meeting at the place requested by the committee, giving such public notice thereof, by the secretary, as is directed

directed above. And at all such meetings, whether occasional or stated, any number of members met, not being less than fifteen, shall have power to make by-laws, and in general, shall have all the powers granted by charter to this corporation, other than the making, altering or repealing fundamental laws and regulations; provided always, that when any part of the stock of the corporation is to be disposed of, or any augmentation of annuities to be made, the same shall be expressed in the previous public notices hereby directed to be given of such meetings.

IV. THE treasurer or treasurers, shall give such security to the corporation every year, or as often as thereto required, in such sum or sums as the corporation at any annual meeting may judge sufficient, for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed, and to be reposed, in him or them; and farther, he or they shall, at each annual meeting, exhibit his or their accounts to the corporation, for their inspection and approbation.

ALTHOUGH the foregoing laws and regulations were enacted upon as full and mature deliberation as the time would admit, yet, upon reconsidering them carefully the next day, when the number of members present was not
sufficient

sufficient to authorize any alteration or amendment, some things, relative to the payments to be made by those of the clergy whose widows and children were to be intitled to annuities, seeming to have been tacitly *implied*, which ought rather to have been fully *expressed*; in order therefore to prevent any future misapprehension of the sense of those articles, it was thought expedient, that an *explanatory article* should be added, to be agreed to and subscribed by all the clergy present, and, in future, by every clergyman who should become a contributor, in order to intitle his widow and children to an annuity from this fund, until such time as a majority of the members of the corporation should again be met to give this explanatory article such further sanction as might be thought necessary. In this explanatory article, the clergy declare their sense of the preceeding laws and regulations to be, that every clergyman, who shall become a contributor, in order that his *widow and children* may be intitled to an *annuity* at his *decease*, is to *continue the payment of his yearly contribution during his life*, and *not to stop at the end of fifteen years*; the whole calculation being on the principle of payments for life. And they further declare their sense of the articles to be, that if any clergyman should die in arrears of his annual payments, *all his arrears, with the penalty of one penny in the*

the pound per day, are to be deducted out of the annuity payable to the widow and children.

By the foregoing laws and regulations a plan was settled for the management and disposition of a fund, that was partly to arise from the *stated contributions* of those whose families were to be intitled to relief and assistance from it. These contributions of the clergy are considered as the annual savings of a strict and severe œconomy, laid out in the purchase of small annuities, to be kept in reserve for their wives and children, in case they should come to be *widows* and *orphans*. To such a fund, where the parties to be benefited by it, were themselves to exert their utmost ability towards its establishment, it could not be doubted that large additions would be made by the generosity and charity of the benevolent and tender-hearted; especially as the wants and distresses of those, who by this institution are to be relieved and assisted, could not fail to have been *peculiarly* interesting and affecting to persons of humanity and sensibility.

AFTER passing the above laws, and doing some other necessary business, the corporation adjourned to meet at New-York the succeeding year.

Second MEETING, Tuesday, October 2d. 1770,
held in the City of NEW-YORK.

THE standing committee reported that they had, agreeable to the orders given them last year, transmitted addressees, in behalf of the corporation, to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and to the Bishop of London; and also a letter of thanks to the society for the propagation of the gospel, acknowledging their great goodness in the *annual* allowance of *Sixty Pounds* sterling, which they had made towards the fund.

THE committee further reported that, in return to the address sent to the Lord Bishop of London, his Lordship had been pleased to desire them to "assure the corporation, that he should always be happy in giving them his advice and assistance---that they had his best wishes for the success of a scheme which reflects so much honor upon the promoters of it, and which seemed so well calculated to relieve the distresses of such objects, as more immediately call for their attention and compassion." His Lordship was further pleased to accompany these his most benevolent wishes, with a kind benefaction of *Twenty Pounds Sterling*, towards the fund.

A LETTER to the Revd. Dr. *Smith*, from the Revd. Mr. *Thomas Wharton*, Rector of St. Michael's, in Bridgetown, Barbadoes, was read, setting forth that he had been favoured with a copy of the Doctor's sermon, delivered the preceeding year, at the first meeting of the corporation, which Mr. Wharton was pleased to say, "carried with it such arguments as made him desirous of offering something more than empty praise to so meritorious a design, and that he proposed to set a collection on foot in the island of Barbadoes for the benefit of the charity."---A committee was appointed to thank Mr. Wharton for this truly generous proposal, and to correspond with him and the other clergy of Barbadoes, on the subject.

IT being thought proper that a Seal should be prepared for the corporation, *Jacob Le Roy*, Esq; generously offered Ten Guineas to be applied for procuring a proper seal; which offer was thankfully accepted.

W E D N E S D A Y, *October 3d.*

THE corporation proceeded to Trinity church, where the annual sermon was preached by the Revd. Dr. *Auchmuty*, Rector of that church, and a very large collection made in church for the benefit of the charity [for which, see the list of benefactions.] In the afternoon
of

of this day, the accounts of the several treasurers were settled, and then the corporation adjourned to meet at Perth-Amboy the succeeding year.

Third MEETING, October 2d, 1771, held in the City of PERTH-AMBOY.

THE corporation being met, proceeded to St. Peter's church in this city, where the annual sermon was preached by the Revd. Dr. Chandler, Rector of St. John's church, Elizabeth-Town, New-Jersey, and a liberal collection was made for the charity. The president reported that in answer to the address formerly sent to the Archbishop of Canterbury, his Grace requests the corporation to be assured that " he will, with pleasure, patronize and " promote their charitable undertaking to the " best of his power."

THURSDAY, *October 3d.*

THE accounts of the several treasurers were settled, and then the corporation adjourned to meet in the city of Philadelphia the succeeding year.

Fourth MEETING October 6th, 1772, held in the City of PHILADELPHIA.

A LETTER from *Henry Duke, Esq;* and the Revd. Mr. *Thomas Wharton,* to the Revd.

Dr. Smith, dated, Barbadoes, May 23d, 1772,
was read as follows, viz.

Reverend S I R,

“ W E have a pleasure in remitting the col-
“ lections in our island by the hands of Mr. Gil-
“ bert, for the use of the corporation for the
“ relief of the widows and children of clergy-
“ men in the communion of the church of
“ England in America, amounting to the
“ sum of *ONE hundred and ninety pounds,*
“ *nine shillings and eight pence half-penny,*
“ *sterling*---Some small sums remain uncollect-
“ ed of the subscriptions of our friends, which
“ we will endeavour to get in and send you by
“ the next convenient opportunity.

“ I F our wishes could have met with ade-
“ quate success, the amount would have been
“ considerably larger. But when you call to
“ mind the calamities which this island hath suf-
“ fered from dreadful fires, and still labours
“ under from unfavourable weather, we flatter
“ ourselves we shall be thought in some degree
“ to have shewn a friendly inclination towards
“ our brethren in North-America, although
“ our encouragement of your laudable scheme
“ is not answerable to our own desires.

Signed, { HENRY DUKE.
 { THOMAS WHARTON.

To Revd. Dr. *William Smith.*

THIS

THIS letter was accompanied with a list of the benefactors, which was ordered to be entered in the books of the corporation; and published with the annual abstract. A letter was also ordered to be sent to Mr. Duke and Mr. Wharton, thanking them and the other worthy contributors for so liberal a benefaction.

The clerical members of the corporation were requested to take convenient opportunities in their respective parishes and congregations, both publicly and privately, to solicit benefactions and contributions to this charitable institution.

WEDNESDAY, *October 7th.*

THE securities to be given by the respective treasurers of the corporation, and the form of a bond for that purpose, were agreed upon; and the preaching of the annual sermon put off till to morrow, on account of the badness of the weather.

THURSDAY, *October 8th.*

THE corporation proceeded to Christ-church, and as the Revd. Dr. Cooper, President of King's college in New-York, whose turn it was to preach, could not attend; the annual sermon was preached by the Revd. Dr. Peters,
Rector

Rector of Christ-church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia, and a liberal collection made for the charity. After sermon, Mr. Hopkinson, one of the treasurers, acquainted the corporation that Richard Hockley, Esq; one of the members, had generously subscribed *Five Pounds*, per annum, Pennsylvania money, during his natural life, for the benefit of the fund; for which the corporation requested him to accept their sincere thanks; and then adjourned to meet the succeeding year in the city of New-York.

Fifth MEETING, *Tuesday, October 5th, 1773.*
held in the City of NEW-YORK.

THE corporation being met proceeded to Trinity Church, and as the Revd. Mr. *Reading*, Missionary at Apoquiniminck in Pennsylvania, who had undertaken to preach the annual sermon, was prevented from attending, by a sudden and severe indisposition; the Revd. Dr. *Peters*, in this necessity, was pleased to preach the same sermon which he had preached (but not * printed) the former year at Philadelphia, and a handsome collection was made in church.

W E D N E S D A Y,

* It was agreed at New-York, in October, 1770, that after the first sermon preached in each of the three provinces, no more should be printed at the expence of the charity.

W E D N E S D A Y, *October 6th.*

T H E different treasurers are desired to be careful to exact the fines, which the laws inflict, on such clerical members as do not pay in their annual contributions, on or before the appointed day.

G O V E R N O R Franklin, of New-Jersey, by the hands of the Revd. Dr. Chandler, having presented a paper which his Excellency had received from his father, Dr. Franklin, containing some remarks, drawn up at his desire, by Dr. Price of London, upon the fundamental laws of this corporation, particularly respecting the *scheme of annuities*; the same was read, and ordered to be inserted in the minutes, and published with the abstract of the proceedings, for the use of the members. Dr. Franklin and Dr. Price are also requested to accept the thanks of the corporation, for this mark of their attention. The paper is as follows.---

R E M A R K S *on the SCHEME of the Corporation for the Relief of the Widows and Children of Clergymen, in the Communion of the Church of England in AMERICA.*

T H E experience of twenty-seven years has proved that the widows of the ministers in *Scotland*, live one with another *twenty years*

years in a state of widowhood. Let this be supposed to be the fact among the widows of clergymen in America ; and let it be also supposed that all, who don't leave widows, leave children, who, by the scheme, will be entitled to an annuity for thirteen years.

THE consequence of these suppositions is, that at the death of every married clergyman an annuity will become due, payable for either twenty years, or for thirteen years.

TAKING widows and families of children together, let the annuity be supposed payable for sixteen years. As more widows will be left than families of children without widows, I reckon this a moderate supposition, after allowing for such families of children, as may become extinct before the expiration of thirteen years; and also for the payment of only *half annuities* for two or three years (by article 6th.) to the widows of such clergymen as have not made fifteen annual payments.---Should this supposition however be a year too much, or too little, no great difference will arise.

ACCORDING to these suppositions, the solution of the following question will determine whether this scheme is adequate or inadequate.

WHAT

WHAT is the value to a person of a given age, in annual payments *during life*, the first payment being made immediately, of an annuity of one pound for sixteen years, payable after his death, provided he lives four years, or so long as to make five annual payments ?

ANSWER. Find (by question tenth, in *observations on reversionary payments, &c.*) the value, in annual payments during the given life, of an annuity payable for ever, or of a *perpetuity*, after the failure of a life four years older than the given life. Diminish this value in the proportion of the value of the *perpetuity* to the value of an *annuity for sixteen years*, found in table second. And this *reduced* value, multiplied by the value of one pound to be received at the end of four years, and also by the probability that the given life shall exist four years, (found in tables third, fourth, or fifth) will be the answer.

SUPPOSING the given life thirty, and reckoning compound interest at four and a half *per cent*, the answer thus calculated will be very nearly a *quarter* of a year's purchase---Supposing the age forty, the answer will be *three tenths* of a year's purchase,---This supposes all the clergy who marry, to leave, at their deaths, either *widows* or families of children,---In Scotland, for the last twenty-seven years, *one*

in *twenty-six*, of all the ministers who have been married, have died widowers without children. In the present case, let only one in twenty be supposed to die so circumstanced, and the consequence will be that the values just given ought to be lessened a twentieth part; or, that the annuity being one pound, the annual payment ought to be four shillings and eight pence for the age of thirty, and five shillings and eight pence for the age of forty.

FROM hence it follows that, taking all ages together, *five shillings per annum* for life, ought to be paid by every married member of such an establishment as that under consideration, for every annuity of *one pound* promised to his widow and children; or that the proportion of the annuity to the annual payment ought to be *four* to *one*, and not *five* to *one* as in this scheme.

I HAVE taken interest at *four and a half per cent*, because I suppose it possible in *America* to improve money perfectly at this rate of compound interest. If interest may be taken as high as *six per cent*, the *proportion* in the scheme, of the annuity to the annual payment, will be *nearly right*.

I HAVE farther supposed, that no such extraordinary payment is made on a second marriage as is mentioned in article 4th. And that the meaning of article 9th is, that if there be a widow

dow and one or more children, and the latter should all die before the end of thirteen years, the whole annuity shall be payable to the former, if then living and single. If this is not the *meaning of this article, a difference that seems improper will be made between the provision for a widow *without* children, and a widow *with* children.

I ALSO suppose the interest of all the money arising from benefactions, to go towards increasing equally annuities just adequate to the annual payments, and capable of being supported by them, without any aid from charitable benefactions.

BATCHELORS might, I think, be induced to encourage such a scheme as this, § by offering that, should they marry after becoming members, all the payments they had previously made, should entitle their widows and children to the same annuity, as if they had been married before they became members.

THIS is the best account I can give of this scheme on a general examination of it. A more minute and accurate examination might be

D 2

made

* THE meaning of the article is as Dr. Price understands it.

§ IT was always intended that payments made by Batchelors before marriage should be thus taken into the account.

made; but it would require some computations that would take up a good deal of time; and the result, I imagine, would not be very different."

AFTER reading the foregoing paper of remarks by Dr. Price, the corporation proceeded to finish their business; and, among other things---*Resolved*, that any clerical member, whose turn it may be to preach the annual sermon, agreeable to the Rule of October, 1769, may have the privilege of engaging any other clerical member to preach in his stead; but he who thus substitutes another to preach for him shall be considered as having thereby given up his own turn; and moreover the person whose turn it is to preach shall, at least three months before the annual meeting, give notice to the president that he is to do the duty himself, or send the name of the person whom he has engaged in his stead. And if he fails in this, the next in turn after him shall have notice from the president to be prepared, or to nominate another.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON, Esq; having declared it inconvenient for him to serve longer as one of the Treasurers of the corporation, they agreed to chuse another in his stead and returned him their thanks for his past faithful services.

THE Rev. Dr. Smith of Philadelphia, Dr. Chandler of Elizabeth-town, and Mr. Odell of Burlington,

Burlington, are appointed a committee to draw up and publish, within one month, an abstract of the proceedings of the corporation from its first institution, with a state of the funds and a list of the benefactions.---Any members who have any alterations or amendments to propose, relative to the fundamental laws or scheme of annuities, are desired to bring the same in writing to next meeting, which is to be held at Elizabeth Town in New-Jersey, the first Wednesday after the Feast of St. Michael, 1774.

We here insert a general account of the encouragement and assistance hitherto received by the corporation ; who hereby return their sincere thanks for the same, to the generous and worthy contributors.

*BENEFACTIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, &c.
for 1769 and 1770, viz.

TO the Congregation of Christ- Church, Philadelphia, for their contribution made at the Church doors, at the first annual meeting of the corporation, October 10th, 1769,	}	£. 40 0 6
To the Rev. Dr. Richard Peters, President of the corporation, for his kind benefaction of Two Hundred Pounds,	}	200 0 0
		<hr/>
Carried over,		£. 240 0 6

* *The current money in these provinces being of different value, the several articles are reduced into the currency of New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, where a Spanish milled dollar of seventeen penny weight and six grains, passes for seven shillings and six-pence ; but in New-York for eight shillings.*

Brought over,	£. 240	0	6
To a Gentleman of Philadelphia, by the Rev. Mr. Cooke,	10	0	0
To a Gentleman, by the Rev. Dr. Smith,	6	0	0
To a Lady, by the same hand,	1	0	0
To a Gentleman, by the Rev. Dr. Chandler,	6	0	0
To a Gentleman by the same hand,	3	0	0
To a Person unknown, by the Rev. Dr. Peters,	0	15	0
To several Ladies, by the Rev. Mr. Duchè,	14	8	0
To Mrs. Jackson, by the Rev. Mr. Craig,	1	0	0
To Mrs. Vanlear, by the same hand,	1	0	0
To the Lord Bishop of London, by the Rev. Dr. Peters,	33	0	0
To his Excellency Governor Franklin, by the Rev. Mr. Odell,	10	0	0
To the Congregation of St. Mary's Church, Burlington, by the same hand,	5	8	0
To the Congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Mount-Holly, by the same hand,	2	5	9
To the Hon. Sir William Johnson, Bart. by the Rev. Dr. Auchmuty,	9	7	6
To the Congregation of Trinity- Church New-York, for their gene- rous contribution made at the annu- al meeting of the corporation, Oc- tober 2d, 1770,	140	11	3
To a Person unknown, by the Rev. Dr. Auchmuty,	3	0	0
To another Person, by the same hand,	1	17	6
To a Lady unknown, by the Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	3	0	0

Carried over, £. 491 13 6

Brought over,	£. 491	13	6
To a military Gentleman, by the same hand, - - - }	3	0	0
To another military Gentleman, by the same hand, - - - }	3	0	0
To another military Gentleman, by the same hand, - - - }	1	17	6
To a Gentleman unknown, by the Rev. Dr. Auchmuty, - }	2	16	3
To a Lady, by Dr. Ogilvie, - - - }	3	0	0
To the Rev. Mr. Provooft, by the Rev. Dr. Auchmuty, - }	9	7	6
To the Rev. Mr. Forbes, by the same hand, - - - }	1	7	0
To a Lady unknown, by the Rev. Dr. Ogilvie, - - - }	3	0	0
To a Gentleman unknown, by Rev. Dr. Auchmuty, - - - }	8	4	0
To a Lady unknown, by the same hand, - - - }	1	10	0
To the Rev. Mr. Preston, by the Rev. Dr. Chandler, - - }	1	14	0
To the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, their annual Contribution of Sixty Pounds Sterling, }	97	0	7
To Mr. William Hilton, by the Rev. Dr. Chandler, - - - }	0	18	9
Contributions of the Clergy of New-York, for 1770, - - - }	57	0	0
Ditto, of the Clergy of Pennsylvania, - - - }	47	0	0
Ditto, of the Clergy of New-Jersey, - - - }	39	0	0
One year's Interest of Two Hundred Pounds put out in Pennsylvania, by Francis Hopkinson, Esq; Treasurer to the Corporation for that Province. }	12	0	0
Fines exacted by Mr. Hopkinson, on Subscriptions not paid when due, agreeable to the third Law, - }	1	2	0
Sum Total for 1769, and 1770, -	£. 784	11	1

BENEFACTIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, &c.

for 1771.

To Colonel Henry Laurens of Charlestown, South-Carolina, by the Rev. Dr. Peters,	£. 7 19 0
To Mr. J. M. of Philadelphia, by the Rev. Dr. Smith,	1 0 0
To Mrs. P** of Philadelphia, by the same,	2 0 0
To Thomas Smith, Esq; of Charles- town, South-Carolina, by the same,	3 0 0
To Benjamin Elliot, Esq; of the same place, by the same,	3 0 0
To Robert Pringle, Esq; of the same place, by the same,	6 0 0
To John Smyth, Esq; of Perth-Am- boy, by the same,	3 0 0
To Col. Armstrong of New-Castle, county, on Delaware, by the same,	5 0 0
To John Morton, Esq; of Chester, in Pennsylvania, by the Rev. Mr. Craig	3 0 0
To Mr. John Crosby, junr. of the same place, by the same,	2 0 0
To Henry Hale Graham, Esq; of the same place, by the same,	1 5 9
To the Congregation of St. Martin's, Chichester in Pennsylvania, by the same,	1 1 4
To Lord Dartry of the Kingdom of Ireland, by Col. Fell,	5 2 0
One year's Interest received by Mr. Hopkinson, on a Bond for One Hundred Pounds put out in Penn- sylvania,	6 0 0

Carried over, £. 48 19 1

Brought over,	£. 48 19 1
To the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, for their annual Contri- bution of Sixty Pounds Sterling (Exchange this year at Sixty per Ct.	96 0 0
One year's Interest received by Mr. Hopkinson, on a Bond for Two Hundred Pounds, -	12 0 0
To the Congregation of St. Peter's Church, Amboy, for their Contri- butions at the annual Meeting, 1771.	30 3 2
To two Persons unknown, by Cort- land Skinner, Esquire, -	1 15 4
One year's Interest on Fifty-seven Pounds, Sixteen shillings and Two- pence, Half-penny put out in New- Jersey, by the Rev. Dr. Chandler, Treasurer to the Corporation in that Province, - - -	4 0 9
One year's Interest on One Hundred and Eighty-seven Pounds, ten Shil- lings put out in New-York, by Ja- cob Le Roy, Esq; Treasurer to the Corporation for that Province,	13 2 6
Contributions of the Clergy in Penn- sylvania, for this Year, -	48 0 0
Fines paid by Ditto, - - -	0 15 3
Contributions of the Clergy of New- York, for this Year, - -	30 0 0
Ditto of the Clergy of New-Jersey, -	39 0 0
Sum Total for 1771, - - -	£. 323 16 1

BENEFACTIONS,

BENEFACTIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, &c.
for 1772.

BARBADOES COLLECTION.

THE particular Thanks of the Corporation are in the first place given this year to the worthy Inhabitants of Barbadoes, whose Names are in the following List; for their sundry Benefactions, transmitted by the Rev. Mr. Thomas Wharton, and Henry Duke, Esq; through the hands of the Rev. Dr. Smith, viz.

	<i>Barbadoes Currency.</i>		
The hon. Abraham Cumberbatch, Esq;	£.	20	0 0
The hon. Henry Frere, Esq;	-	10	0 0
The hon. Conrade Adams, Esq;	-	7	10 0
The hon. Gedney Clarke, Esq;	-	10	0 0
The Rev. and hon. Mr. Robert Brathwaite,		10	0 0
The hon. Sir John Gay Alleyne, Baronet,		5	0 0
The hon. Samson Wood, Esq;	-	5	0 0
The hon. Hilary Rowe, senr. Esq;	-	1	17 6
The hon. Hilary Rowe, junr. Esq;	-	1	17 6
The hon. Samuel Wallcot, Esq;	-	3	15 0
Henry Duke, Esq;	-	5	0 0
John Wheeler Ridgway, Esq;	-	5	0 0
Philip Lovell, Esq;	-	2	10 0
John Burke, Esq;	-	2	10 0
William Gibbes Alleyne, Esq;	-	2	10 0
Joseph Miller, Esq;	-	1	17 6
Edward Pare, Esq;	-	1	17 9
Thomas Best, Esq;	-	6	5 0
Henry Walker, Esq;	-	3	15 0
Thomas Payne, Esq;	-	1	17 6
William Haggat, Esq;	-	1	17 6
The Rev. Mr. Edward Brace,	-	5	0 0
The Rev. Mr. William Duke,	-	5	0 0
Carried over,	£.	120	00 3

Barbadoes Currency.

Brought over,	£. 120 00 3
The Rev. Mr. Robert Boucher,	- 5 0 0
The Rev. Mr. Thomas Wharton,	- 5 0 0
The Rev. Mr. William Terrill,	- 5 0 0
The Rev. Mr. Thomas Duke,	- 5 0 0
The Rev. Mr. James Butcher,	- 5 0 0
The Rev. Mr. Joseph Hebson,	- 5 0 0
The Rev. Mr. Richard Saer,	- 3 15 0
The Rev. Mr. Michael Mashart,	- 2 10 0
William Moore, Esq; Attorney-General,	3 15 0
Timothy Blenman, Esq;	- 5 0 0
Samuel Moore, Esq;	- 3 15 0
Dr. Thomas Pollard,	- 5 0 0
Henry Armell Pollard, Esq;	- 1 17 6
George Errington, Esq;	- 2 10 0
Thomas Hetherfall, Esq;	- 2 10 0
Joseph Mofely, Esq;	- 1 17 6
Robert Beckles, Esq;	- 1 17 6
Mrs. Catherine Cox,	- 1 17 6
Benjamin Bostock, Esq; by Rev. Mr. Morrison,	3 15 0
George James, Esq; by the same,	- 1 17 6
John Freke, Esq; by the same,	- 1 17 6
A Person unknown, by Rev. Mr. Wharton,	1 17 6
A Person unknown, by Rev. Mr. Hebson,	1 17 6
The neat Profits of a benefit Represen- tation, entitled " <i>Columbus</i> ,"	- 52 15 10
Total,	£. 249 15 10
Deduct what was paid for Advertisements, &c.	- 2 3 3
Remains,	£. 247 12 7
The above Sum of £. 247 12 7 is equal to £. 190 9 8 Sterling, which was remitted in a sterling Bill, and produced in Pennsylvania Money,	£. 304 15 6
E 2	Carried over,

Brought over,	£. 304 15 6
To Rev. Dr. Smith, for the Consideration paid to him by Mr. <i>John Dunlap</i> , for the Privilege of printing the Poems of the Rev. Nathaniel Evans, A. M. deceased, late Missionary for Gloucester County, in New-Jersey.	20 0 0
To Henry Zachary Smith, Esq; of Barbadoes,	7 12 7
To a Lady unknown, by Daniel Coxe, Esquire,	3 0 0
To Thomas Coombe, Esq; by the Rev. Mr. Coombe,	1 14 0
To Mr. Joseph Wharten, by the same,	1 14 0
To Edward Biddle, Esq; by Mr. Hopkinson,	3 0 0
To Mr. Thomas Asheton, by the same,	1 0 0
To sundry Persons unknown, by the Rev. Mr. Daehè,	11 2 0
To Dr. Benjamin Rush, by the Rev. Mr. Coombe,	1 14 0
To Isaac Hunt, Esq; by the same,	1 14 0
To the Congregation of Christ-Church Philadelphia, for their generous Contribution, made at the annual Meeting of the Corporation, October 8th, 1772,	120 3 4
To the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, their annual Contribution of Sixty Pounds Sterling, Exchange at Fifty-seven and a half per Cent.	94 10 0
Interest received by Mr. Hopkinson, on a Bond for One Hundred Pounds put out in Pennsylvania,	6 0 0
Interest received by Mr. Le Roy, on sundry Sums put out in New-York,	18 14 1
To Thomas Bartow, Esq; by the Rev. Dr. Chandler,	3 0 0
Carried over,	£. 599 13 6

Brought over,	£. 599 13 6
To a Person unknown, by the same,	- 0 8 5
To William Pigeon, Esq; by the Rev. Mr. Thompson,	6 0 0
To Joshua Lawrence, Esq; by the same,	- 3 0 0
Interest received by the Rev. Dr. Chandler, on One Hundred and Twenty-one Pounds, Seventeen and Six-pence, put out in New-Jersey,	8 10 6
Contributions of the Clergy of Pennsylvania, 1772,	57 0 0
Fines paid by Ditto,	- 1 12 4
Contributions of the Clergy of New-York, 1772,	45 0 0
Ditto of the Clergy of New-Jersey,	- 30 0 0
Sum Total for 1772,	£. 751 4 9

BENEFACTIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, &c.
for 1773.

To John Dickinson, Esq; of Pennsylvania, by the Rev. Dr. Smith,	13 10 0
To Alexander Ross, Esq; of Jamaica, by the same,	6 0 0
To Thomas Lynch, Esq; of South-Carolina, by the same,	8 10 0
To a Lady unknown, by the Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	4 13 9
To a Gentleman, by the same,	3 0 18
To another Gentleman, by the same,	1 5 3
To the Congregation of Trinity Church, New-York, for their generous contribution made at the annual Meeting of the Corporation, October 5th, 1773.	92 16 8
Carried over,	£. 129 16 7

Brought over,	£. 129 16 7
To the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, for their annual Contribution of Sixty Pounds Ster- ling. - - - - -	101 5 0
To an Officer, by Dr. Ogilvie, - - -	4 13 9
To Jacob Le Roy, Esq; for Ten Gui- neas to purchase a Seal for the Cor- poration, - - - - -	17 0 0
Interest Money receiv'd by Jacob Le Roy, Esq; on fundry Sums put out in New-York, - - - - -	18 5 2
To the Rev. Mr. Sayre's Congregati- on, for their Benefaction, - - -	3 10 7
Interest Money received by Francis Hopkinson, Esq; on fundry Sums put out in Pennsylvania, - - -	48 12 0
To Richard Hockley, Esq; for his an- nual Donation, - - - - -	5 0 0
Interest on fundry Bonds, received by Samuel Powel, Esq; Treasurer for Pennsylvania, - - - - -	36 2 4
Subscriptions of the Clergy of New- York, 1773, - - - - -	110 12 6
Ditto of the Clergy of New-Jersey, - -	33 0 0
Ditto of the Clergy of Pennsylvania, -	58 10 0
A Fine for Default, - - - - -	0 4 0
To the hon. James Hamilton, Esq; for his Benefaction, by the Hands of Rev. Dr. Peters. - - - - -	20 0 0

Sum Total for 1773, £. 591 11 11

To which add for -	{	1772, - -	£. 751 4 9
		1771, - -	323 16 1
		1770, 1769, -	784 11 1

Total amount of Benefactions }
and Subscriptions, - } £. 2451 3 10

Whereof Jacob Le Roy, Esq; Treasurer for New-York, has	-	-	} £. 788	0	5
Ditto Rev. Dr. Chandler, Treasurer for New-Jersey, has	-	-	} 204	3	5
Ditto Samuel Powel, Esq; Treasurer for Pennsylvania, has	-	-	} 1353	13	10
<hr/>					
Total Stock, December 30, 1773,			£.	2345	17 8

Balance expended by the fundry Treasurers, in paying the Accounts of Printers, &c.—viz.—

By the Treasurer for New-York, - -	} £. 40	10	6	} £. 103	12	8
By the Treasurer for New-Jersey, -	} 14	8	8			
By the Treasurer for Pennsylvania, -	} 48	13	6			

Add to the Expences for 1773, £. 1 13 6

Stock and Expences, £. 2451 3 10

Additional Rule, made October 3d, 1771, respecting the Treasurers.

The several Treasurers shall correspond with each other, in order that monies may be occasionally transferred from one to another, for the putting the same more readily out to interest; and upon such transfers, the Receipt of one Treasurer shall be a sufficient discharge to another.

A LIST of the CLERGYMEN who are *annual Contributors*, with the Classes in which they subscribe, and the Times from which their first Payments commenced; taken from the Book of Minutes, p. 22, &c. the new Contributors being inserted according to their Classes.

	Dol.	£.	Commencing.
WILLIAM Smith, D. D.	24	9	} Octo. 1770.
Samuel Auchmuty, D. D.	24	9	
Miles Cooper, L. L. D.	24	9	
John Ogilvie, D. D.	24	9	
Charles Inglis, A. M.	24	9	
Jacob Duchè, A. M.	24	9	} Octo. 1773.
Leonard Cutting, A. M.	24	9	
Thomas Coombe, A. M.	24	9	
William White, A. M.	24	9	
Samuel Magaw, A. M.	20	7 10	
John Andrews, A. M.	20	7 10	} Octo. 1770.
Thos. Bradbury Chandler, D. D.	16	6	
Richard Charlton, A. M.	16	6	
Jonathan Odell, A. M.	16	6	
Samuel Seabury, A. M.	16	6	
Rev. William Frazer,	16	6	} Octo. 1773.
John Sayre, A. M.	16	6	
Rev. William Stringer,	16	6	
Samuel Cooke, A. M.	12	4 10	
Philip Reading, A. M.	8	3	
William Currie, A. M.	8	3	} Octo. 1770.
George Craig, A. M.	8	3	
Thomas Barton, A. M.	8	3	
Alexander Murray, A. M.	8	3	
William Thompson, A. M.	8	3	
Abraham Beach, A. M.	8	3	} Octo. 1771.
Rev. William Ayers,	8	3	
John Beardsley, A. M.	8	3	
John Preston, A. M.	8	3	
Rev. Harry Munro.	8	3	
Rev. Mr. Blackwell,	8	3	Octo. 1773.
Total,	476	178 10	

LIST

L I S T O F T H E M E M B E R S .

HIS Excellency William Tryon, Esq; Governor of New-York.

His Excellency William Franklin, Esq; Governor of New-Jersey.

The Honorable John Penn, Esq; one of the Proprietaries, and Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Honorable Cadwalader Colden, Esq; Lieutenant Governor of New-York.

A

The Honorable Charles Ward Apthorp, Esquire.

The Honorable William Axtel, Esquire.

Samuel Auchmuty, D. D.

John Andrews, M. A.

William Atlee, Esquire.

Ephraim Avery, M. A.

Rev. William Ayres.

B

Goldsbrow Banyer, Esquire.

Thomas Barton, M. A.

Abraham Beach, M. A.

John Beardfley, M. A.

Edward Biddle, Esquire.

Robert Blackwell, M. A.

Jothua Bloomer, M. A.

Isaac Browne, M. A.

C

The Honorable Henry Cruger, Esquire.

The Honorable Benjamin Chew, Esquire.

The Honorable Daniel Coxe, Esquire.

Thomas Bradbury Chandler, D. D.

Richard

F

Myles Cooper, L. L. D.
Richard Charlton, M. A.
Samuel Cooke, M. A.
Thomas Coombe, M. A.
James Van Cortlandt, Esquire.
George Craig, M. A.
William Currie, M. A.
Leonard Cutting, M. A.

D

James De Lancey, Esquire.
Elias Desbrosses, Esquire.
James Duane, Esquire.
Jacob Duchè, M. A.

F

John Foxcroft, Esquire.
Rev. William Frazer.

G

Joseph Galloway, Esquire.

H

The Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire.
Richard Hockley, Esquire.
Francis Hopkinson, Esquire.

I

The Honourable Sir William Johnson, Bart.
Charles Inglis, M. A.
Samuel Johnson, Esquire.

K

The Honourable Peter Kemble, Esquire.
John Tabor Kempe, Esquire.
Benjamin Kissam, Esquire.
Ebenezer Kneeland, M. A.

L

The Honourable John Lawrence, Esquire.
The Honourable Lynford Lardner, Esquire.
The Honourable George Duncan Ludlow, Esquire.
Jacob Le Roy, Esquire.
John Livingston, Esquire.
John Lyon, M. A.

M

The Honourable Roger Morris, Esquire.
Samuel Magaw, M. A.
Rev. Henry Muhlenberg.
Rev. Henry Munro.
Alexander Murray, M. A.

O

John Ogilvie, D. D.
Jonathan Odell, M. A.

P

The Honourable Richard Penn, Esquire.
The Honourable James Parker, Esquire.
Richard Peters, D. D.
Richard Peters, junior, Esquire.
Frederick Philips, Esquire.
Samuel Powel, Esquire.
John Preston, M. A.
Samuel Provost, M. A.

R

The Honourable Charles Read, Esquire.
Philip Reading, M. A.
John Ross, Esquire.

S

The Right Honourable William Lord Sterling.
The Honourable Samuel Smith, Esquire.

The Honourable Frederick Smyth, Esquire.
The Honourable Edward Shippen, Esquire.
William Smith, D. D.
Cortland Skinner, Esquire.
John Sayre, M. A.
Samuel Seabury, M. A.
Alexander Stedman, Esquire.
Rev. William Stringer.
Nicholas Stuyvesant, Esquire.
John Swift, Esquire.

T

The Honourable James Tilghman, Esquire.
William Thompson, M. A.

W

The Honourable John Watts, Esquire.
Jacob Walton, Esquire.
William White, M. A.
Isaac Willet, Esquire.
Thomas Willing, Esquire.

A L I S T OF THE OFFICERS
OF THE CORPORATION, CHOSEN OCTOBER 1773.

P R E S I D E N T.

RICHARD PETERS, D. D.

T R E A S U R E R S.

JACOB LE ROY, Esquire, for New-York.
SAMUEL POWEL, Esquire, for Pennsylvania.
THOMAS B. CHANDLER, D. D. for New-Jersey.

S T A N D I N G C O M M I T T E E.

I N N E W - Y O R K.

The Honourable JOHN WATTS, Esquire.
CHARLES INGLIS, M. A.

IN NEW-JERSEY.
The Honourable JAMES PARKER, Esquire.
CORTLAND SKINNER, Esquire.

IN PENNSYLVANIA.
WILLIAM SMITH, D. D.
RICHARD PETERS, junior, Esquire.

SECRETARY.
JONATHAN ODELL, M. A.

THE FORM OF A LEGACY

*To the Corporation for the Relief of the Widows and
Children of Clergymen in the Communion of the Church
of England in America.*

ITEM. **I** GIVE to the " Corporation for the Relief of the Widows and Children of Clergymen in the Communion of the Church of England in America," the Sum of _____ to be raised and paid, by and out of all my ready Money, Plate, Goods, and personal Effects, which by Law I can or may charge with the Payment of the same (and not out of any Part of my Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments) and to be applied towards carrying on the charitable Purposes expressed in the Charters granted to the said Corporation, in the Provinces of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania, in America.

N. B. It will be necessary to observe the above Form in any Legacy in Great-Britain and Ireland; but in the Colonies, a Legacy in Lands, or in Money payable out of the Sale or Rent of Lands, will be valid; and then the Form may be thus—

ITEM.

ITEM. I give to the " Corporation for the Relief of the Widows and Children of Clergymen in the Communion of the Church of England in America," and to their Successors for ever,
Acres of Land, situated, lying and being in [here describe the Lands] or, if it is Money payable out of Lands, the form may be thus—

ITEM. I give to the Corporation, [using the Charter Stile as before] the Sum of _____ to be paid within _____ after my Decease, out of all my Effects, Goods and Estate whatsoever, whether real or personal, and to be applied towards carrying on the charitable Purposes expressed in the Charters granted to the said Corporation, in the Provinces of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

† A BENEFACTION to the Corporation may be sent to either of the Treasuries, or other Officers, mentioned in the List of Officers for the present Year.

By the *Charters*, this CORPORATION is enabled to “take, hold and transmit to their successors, lands, tenements, rents, &c. to the yearly value of one *Thousand Pounds Sterling*, and in like manner to take, hold and transmit in goods, chattels, monies and effects, a capital not exceeding *Twenty Thousand Pounds Sterling* in each of the three provinces.”

“ THE Accounts and Tranſactions of the *Corporation*, legally and properly vouched and authenticated, are, from time to time, and as often as demanded, to be laid before the Lords *Archbishops of Canterbury and York*, and the *Bishop of London* for the time being, or ſuch perſon or perſons as they may from time to time appoint
for

for that purpose in America, in order to be by them ratified and confirmed, or subjected to such revifal, check and confirmation, as may be thought juft and reasonable."

THE foregoing abstract and ftate of the accounts, are therefore drawn up in purfuance of the directions contained in this laft claufe of the Charters; and alfo for the fatisfaction of the worthy Contributors, and of all other humane and pious perfons.

Dec. 10th, 1773.

By ORDER of the CORPORATION,

WILLIAM SMITH,	}	Committee.
THOMAS B. CHANDLER,		
JONATHAN ODELL,		

P O S T C R I P T.

WE now beg leave to fill up the remaining pages of this fheet with a few extracts, from the three fermons which have been publifhed in recommendation of this Charitable Undertaking. From the *first* of thefe fermons, the extracts will be fomewhat larger, as the occafion then required a more particular explanation of the defign; which is thus introduced—

"JESUS CHRIST constituted *Love* as the grand criterion, whereby all who fhould profefs his name, might be truly known as his. CHARITY, therefore, in the Gofpel-fenfe, is juftly ftiled a *New-Law*; as founded, not in a mere regard to Almighty juftice, or fear of Almighty judgment; but in a heart that is caft into the very mold of LOVE itfelf—in a temper that is angelic, nay, even fcraphic, godlike; and already fo raifed above this world, as to be daily ripening for the next."

"To

“ To those, therefore, who have this just conception of Gospel-Charity, and have the true Love of God, and of mankind, reigning in their hearts, little need be said on the present occasion. For if all acts of love and beneficence, so far as our abilities and opportunities reach, be branches of this heavenly virtue, we have the authority of Scripture to say—That the cause of the FATHERLESS and WIDOWS claims a special and primary regard.”

‘ EVEN under the Law it was commanded that—
 “ When thou cuttest down thine harvest, and hast forgotten a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go to fetch it—When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again—When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it afterwards—it shall be for the STRANGER, the FATHERLESS and the WIDOW.”

“ AND, in the New Testament, all true religion, as has been said, is placed in a heart that is set loose to the things of this world, and is breathing the dictates of Humanity and Love—“ Pure religion, and undefiled before God and the Father is this—To visit the FATHERLESS and WIDOWS in their affliction, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world.”—

“ EVEN a story of *feigned Distress*, prevailed on David, at a time when he resisted the calls of his own natural affections—because it came from a WIDOW, as pleading for her only son—“ Help O King! I am indeed a WIDOW-WOMAN and my husband is dead”—and if this son be lost, “ my coal which is alive will be quenched, and neither name nor remainder be left to my husband on earth.” Surely then the voice of *real Distress* will be more powerful—the voice of WIDOWS indeed !

indeed! not pleading, like Her of Tekoah, for lives forfeited to the law; but for themselves and their children—for the names and remainders of our own clergy—of men who have once been our friends in life—who have administered to us heavenly counsel and sweet comfort in Christ Jesus, and who perhaps have often opened our souls to flow in those godlike streams of Charity to others, wherewith these helpless Remainders of themselves now need to be relieved and refreshed at our hands.”

“IT is well known that the chief support of the Clergy of the church England, in these northern colonies, depends on the bounty of our fellow-members of the church in Great-Britain; and the venerable Society, who have the distribution of this bounty, will be more and more obliged to retrench their allowance, that, like faithful Stewards, they may be able to reach out their helping-hand to the numerous petitioners for new missions, in these daily growing colonies—The additional support which our Clergy receive from their congregations is generally small, often precarious, decreasing sometimes in *nominal*, and always in *real*, value; from the growing expence of the necessaries of life. Decency, a regard to character, to their own usefulness, to the credit of religion, and even your credit among whom they minister, require them to maintain some sort of figure in their families, above those in common business; while certain it is that, after all the expences of their education, any sober and reputable tradesman can turn his industry to more account than theirs.”

“THESE things are not mentioned as matters of complaint, being often of necessity in many places; and it is hoped the clergy will never make their calculations

in the way of the world, but keep their eye on their Master's service—looking forward to the *Recompence of Reward*. Yet what is here mentioned, shews the propriety of the design before us; namely, the making some provision for their destitute *Widows* and *Children*—For tho' the clergy, by strict œconomy and good example, may in their life time give their children a good education, and cherish in them the hopes of future usefulness—yet often, amid these fond presages of the heart, the father, perhaps in his prime of years, is called from this world—The prop of a whole family is no more! On his life, under God, was their whole dependence even for daily bread! His death leaves them destitute—destitute alas! not of bread only, but even of council and protection upon earth!”

“ FATAL reverse! Ah! Little do the world in general, and especially they who bask in the easy sun-shine of affluence and prosperity—little do they know the various complicated scenes of private anguish and distress!”

“ To be FATHERS, then, to such FATHERLESS CHILDREN as these, to take them by the hand, and lead them forth, through the snares of the world, unto some public usefulness in life, that the name and memorial of our dear brethren and faithful pastors deceased, may not be wholly lost upon earth—to do THIS, and give some gleams of comfort to the afflicted WIDOWS and MOTHERS that survive—must surely be one of the highest delights of a benevolent mind; and this is the glorious object of the CHARITY before us! Blessed, therefore, be all they in this world and the next, into whose hearts God shall put it, to assist in so benevolent a design”——

In like manner, the author of the *second* sermon observes

serves concerning the Clergy in these northern colonies that “ many *who serve at the altar, cannot live by the altar*”—Their WIDOWS he considers in the situation of that “ woman of the wives of the sons of “ the prophets who cried unto Elisha saying—Thy servant my husband is dead, and thou knowest that thy “ servant did fear the Lord, and the creditor is come to “ take unto him my *two sons to be bonds-men.*”——

To be employed, says he, in relieving such distress as this “ is a work upon which the whole heavenly hierarchy will look down with joy—nay, the great Jehovah himself views with pleasure such *good-will towards men*—he sees—he approves—he records our *labour of love* ! Every mite we bestow is noted in his book——and when all other pleasures shall cease ; when every gratification in which we now delight shall grow tasteless and insipid ; when we shall stand upon the verge of eternity ; then CHARITY will be found a valuable treasure—even a refuge and consolation laid up against the day of nature’s great distress ! Blessed ! for ever blessed shall the *merciful* then be, for they shall obtain *mercy* !”

THE author of the *third* sermon enforces the great duty “ of doing good unto all men, especially unto them which are of the *household of faith.*” And to what had been said, on the former occasions, concerning the preparation and study necessary for undertaking the ministerial office, he adds——“ And when we are ready to offer ourselves for this service, which must be at an age when men may have been long settled in any other employment, there is still a heavy load of expence (to *whose* reproach shall it be spoken ? for a reproach it certainly is) to be sustained in a voyage to a distant quarter

quarter of the globe for ordination.—This last expence, and the perils attending it, are hardships peculiar to the candidates of our Church in the colonies; and not to be paralleled in any other christian society!" Besides these discouragements which beset the entrance into our ministry, the Clergy labour generally during their whole lives under the further discouragements already mentioned, from the smallness and precariousness of their livings; so that "imagination can hardly picture to itself scenes of deeper distress than, after their decease, are sometimes to be found in their families—bereaved of their support—deprived of their habitations—turned abroad to the world, *wounded and half-dead*—even more the objects of pity than the traveller bound from Jerusalem to Jericho—and their condition such as would move the compassion of a *Samaritan* himself! Surely, then, it must move the tender heart of a true Christian, and none such *will pass by on the other side!*"

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F I N I S.

